

Name _____

Subtraction with Unlike Denominators

Essential Question How can you use models to subtract fractions that have different denominators?

COMMON CORE STANDARD CC.5.NF.2

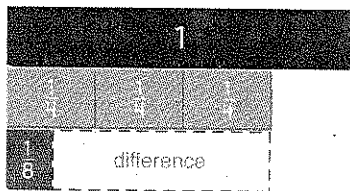
Use equivalent fractions as a strategy to add and subtract fractions.

Investigate

Mario fills a hummingbird feeder with $\frac{3}{4}$ cup of sugar water on Friday. On Monday, Mario sees that $\frac{1}{8}$ cup of sugar water is left. How much sugar water did the hummingbirds drink?

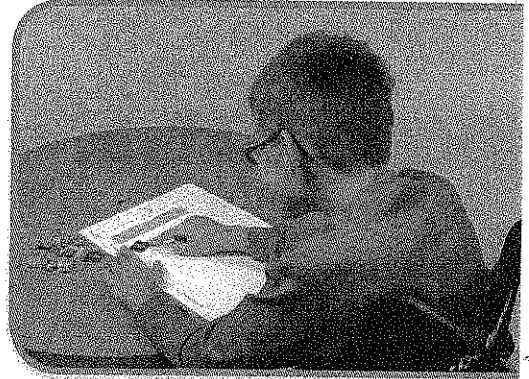
Materials ■ fraction strips ■ MathBoard

- Find $\frac{3}{4} - \frac{1}{8}$. Place three $\frac{1}{4}$ strips under the 1-whole strip on your MathBoard. Then place a $\frac{1}{8}$ strip under the $\frac{1}{4}$ strips.
- Find fraction strips all with the same denominator that fit exactly under the difference $\frac{3}{4} - \frac{1}{8}$.



- Record the difference. $\frac{3}{4} - \frac{1}{8} =$ _____

So, the hummingbirds drank _____ cup of sugar water.



MATHEMATICAL PRACTICES

Math Talk

How can you tell if the difference of the fractions is less than 1? Explain.

Draw Conclusions

- Describe how you determined what fraction strips, all with the same denominator, would fit exactly under the difference. What are they?

- H.O.T.** Explain whether you could have used fraction strips with any other denominator to find the difference. If so, what is the denominator?
